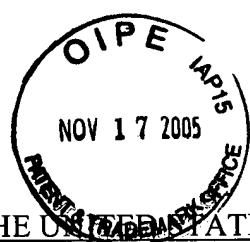


S/N 10/809,962



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ALFERNESS ET AL. Examiner: S. GILBERT
Serial No.: 10/809,962 Group Art Unit: 3736
Filed: MARCH 26, 2004 Docket No.: 11998.5USC8
Title: CARDIAC SUPPORT DEVICE WITH DIFFERENTIAL EXPANSION (AS AMENDED)

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on November 14, 2005

By: Kristine A. Wacek
Name: Kristine A. Wacek

AMENDMENT WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed July 14, 2005 and the Advisory Action mailed August 22, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper. While reserving all rights to file future continuation applications with the canceled claims, claims 29–30 are canceled. Claim 18 is amended to add a “whereby” clause to clarify the consequences of previously claimed structure. Claim 18 is also amended to add clarifying structure.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.